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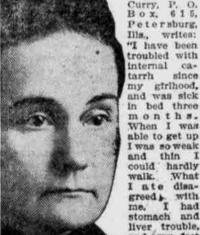
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and was sick in bed three months. able to get up I was so weak and thin I could hardly walk. What greed with stomach and liver trouble, and my feet were swollen so I could scarcely drag

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## ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS JOINED BY BELL TELEPHONE LINE

President Vail's Engineers Make It Possible For President Wilson to Send His Voice Across the Continent Instantly.

BELL, VAIL AND WATSON, CREATORS OF TELEPHONE, EXCHANGE GREETINGS OVER 4,400-MILE CIRCUIT

Public Officials of Cities on Two Coasts Take Part in Celebration and Congratulate One Another on New Bond Established Between East and West.

New York, January 25 .- The completion of the long distance telephone line between New York and San Francisco was celebrated today. First, this city had speech with her California neighbor, 3,400 miles away. Then the wires that swing southward from New York brought Washington and San Francisco into telephonic touch. On down the coast to little Jekyl Island opposite Georgia, they car-ried the Golden Gate's greeting. To the North, Boston, the birthplace of the telephone, talked across the con-

At the White House President Wilson spoke into the mouthpiece of his telephone and his voice was whirled across thirteen States to the shore of

President Wilson Talks. President Wilson talked first to President Moore of the Panama-Pacific exposition. He said:

ic exposition. He said:

"It appeals to the imagination to speak across the continent. It is a fine omen for the exposition that the first thing it has done is to send its coice from sea to sea. I congratulate you on the fine prospects for a successful exposition. I am confidently hoping to take part in it siter the adjournment of concress. May I not send my greatings to the management and is all whose work has made it possible and has made it the great event it promises to be, and to convey my personal congratulations to you."

Clear as a bell came back President Moore's reply:

We are looking forward to your com-k here. I think you will be pleased the what we have done. I assure you, r. President, that you will never receive welcome that will be more cordial and

President Wilson then talked to Mr. Thomas A. Watson, in San Francisco. with Dr. Alexander Graham Bell listenng in on the line at New York. Presilent Wilson said:

THEODORE N. VAIL.



phone and Telegraph company, who talked from Jekyl Island to San Fran-

"I consider it an honor to be able to express my admiration for the inventive genius and scientific knowledge that has made this possible, and my pride that this vital cord should have been stretched across America as a new symbol of our unity and our enterprise. Will you not convey my cordial congratulations to Mr. Bell. And I want to convey to you my personal congratulations, sir."

The President then said to the inventor of the telephone. Doctor Bell. entor of the telephone, Doctor Bell, at New York:

May I not congratulate you very armly on this notable consummation of our long labors and remarkable achievement? You are justified in feeling a great ride in what has been done. This is a comerable day and I convey to you warm congratulations. sir."

After talking with Doctor Bell, the

esident was asked by Mr. Kingsbury he cared to say a word to Theodore Vall, president of the American Tel-graph and Telephone Company, who staying at Jekyl Island, off the coast Georgia. "Why, yes, yes, certainly," roult was being arranged the Presient chatted with Mr. Kingsbury, sevachievements in which he was a rticipant. Mr. Vail was then anunced, and the President immediateplaced the receiver to his ear, ask-g: "Is this Mr. Vail?" Mr. Vail's voice came over the wire so plainly lightly away from his ear, and then

"Mr. Vail, it is a great pleasure to hear your voice. I want to send you my congratulations on the consummation of this remarkable work. I am very sorry, also, to know that you are unwell." A pause naued, the President listening to Mr. Vail's reply. The President then said: "Well, I envy you your ability to get off. Jood-by, Mr. Vail."

But on a day when long distance telephone records were smashing up

telephone records were smashing up the country over, it was the talk be tween San Francisco and Jekyl Island that had the honor of breaking every world's record for long distance trans-mission. President Theodore N. Vall of the American Telephone and Telegraph company is spending the win-ter on Jekyl Island, and when he spoke to San Francisco, his voice had to travel 1,000 miles up the Atlantic seabord to New York before it started on its transcontinental journey. it sounded in the receiver at San Francisco it had gone 4,400 miles in all.

Statement of Mr. Vail. Mr. Theodore N. Vail, speaking from Jekyl Island, Georgia, said: "At the centennial exhibition at Phila-delphia, the exhibit of the Bell System consisted of two telephones capable of

talking from one part of the room to another. Faint as the transmitted speech was, it became at once the marvel of all the world, causing scientists as well as laymen to exclaim with wonder. Starting with these feeble instruments only, the Bell Company, by persistent study and incessant expenditures of immense sums of money, created an entire new art, inventing, developing and perfecting, making improvements, great and small in telephone transmitter, line, cable, switchboard and every other piece of apparatus and plant required for the transmission of speech. As the latest product of this unceasing organized effort, there has been dedicated to the service of the public today a transcontinental line 3,400 miles long, joining the Atlantic and the Pacific and carrying the human voice instantly and distinctly between San Francisco and New York and Boston and Washington. This telephone line is part of the Bell System of 21,000,000 miles of wire connecting 9,000,000 telephone stations located everywhere throughout the United States and giving to the American people telephone service unparalleled among the nations of the earth."

On a table in President Vail's office in New York was a replica of the first telephone transmitter.

in New York was a replica of the first telephone transmitter to carry the human voice. It looked to be a crude enough affair. Tie down a drum head over a wooden receiver, join the center of the drum-head to the free end of a receiver spring, arrange a mouthpiece over the drum-head-and there you have it.

There was further reminder of the telephone's babyhood in a coll of wire connected with the transmitter. This was part of the original wire over which Dr. Bell spoke the first words ever uttered by telephone, in his boarding house at 5 Exeter Place,

J. J. Carty Greets Dr. Bell. One of the first to greet Dr. Bell as he entered was John Joseph Carty

Chief Engineer of the American Tele phone and Telegraph Company, under whose direction the transcontinental line was built. Mr. Carty said:

line was built. Mr. Carty said:

'This greatest of telephone lines which today has been dedicated to the service of the public, must always be distinguished because through its copper wires the voice of the Chief Magistrate of this nation has for the first time in our history been transmitted from the seat of government at Washington westward thirty-six hundred miles to the shores of the Pacific. Over this line the voice of President Wilson was carried with magic speed across rivers and plaths and mountains, instantly reaching Sar Francisco where in clear tones it spoke his message of congratulation to men of achievement.

'Unable to be present with us in person, Mr. Theodore N. Vail has nevertheless taken part in these ceremonies, in a manner that fills the mind with amazement. By using his wonderful Beil system of organized men and organized wires he has talked to us here at New York from an island eleven hundred miles to the south, near the coast of Florida. From there he has spoken through the length and breadth of our land to the state of California, forty-four hundred miles away, thus attaining the longest distance ever achieved by the voice of man.

"We are filled with grateful feelings

"We are filled with grateful feelings that Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas A. Watson have today talked to each oth-er over this now historic line. Doctor Bell was the first to conceive of the true Bell was the first to conserve of the true-method and apparatus for transmitting speech electrically and Mr. Watson, fol-lowing exactly the directions given to him by Doctor Bell, constructed with his own hands the first telephone. Bell was the first among men to talk by the electric telephone and Watson was the first to hear.

telephone and Watson was the first to hear

"There is before us an exact reproduction of this electric speaking telephone employed by Bell and Watson when first they talked to each other by wire they talked to each other by wire Through this instrument Doctor Bell has again talked to Mr. Watson, but this time how vast is the distance and how great the triumph.

"Of course he was not heard by any means as well as when he used our standard transmitter but well enough to be understood, we may be sure, and loud enough to excite a most pleasing sentiment. This original type of telephone talking over one of our modern lines spoke across the continent more distinctly than it ever did from one room to another over the best line of former days. Thus does this homely first instrument give testimony to the marvelous improvements made in its plant by the Bell company during these intense intervening years."

Mr. Carty escorted Dr. Bell to the strange looking transmitter and its in ventor pressed his lips to the mouth

piece. Bell and Watson Talk. "Ahoy! Ahoy! Mr. Watson, are you there? Do you hear me?" asked

"Yes, Mr. Bell, I hear you perfectly. Do you hear me well?" replied Mr. Watson at his end of the line in San Francisco.

'Yes, your voice is perfectly distinct," said Bell. "It is as clear as if you were here in New York instead of being more than 3,000 miles away You remember, Mr. Watson, that evening, 38 years ago when we conversed through the telephone on a real line for the first time?"

"Yes, indeed," answered Watson, that line was two miles long, running from Boston to Cambridge. You were overjoyed at the success of the exper-

"We are talking over 3,400 miles as easily and clearly as we talked over two miles 38 years ago," said Prof.

The telephone men have certainly done wonderful things with your in vention since that first outdoor test, said Mr. Watson. "We must not for-get that the circuit we are talking over is really 6,800 miles long, as of course, the earth cannot be used for the return now as we used it then."

"I want to switch in another tele phone and talk to you through that," said Dr. Bell, and suiting the action to the word he switched in a replica of his first telephone instrument. "I am now talking through an exact dupli-cate of the first telephone which was made in June 1875," continued Dr.

Bell, "can you hear me?"
"I hear perfectly, though less distinctly than with the other, of course," answered Mr. Watson. Mr. Bell switched back to the stand-

What wonderful progress has been made by the Bell System since then ted over a circuit of 6,000 miles, without the least apparent distortion or

weakening. "Their work has been superb," declared Mr. Watson, "and superb also is the discipline of the organization that watches every inch of this long circuit to safeguard those feeble vi-

"All honor to the men who have rendered this great achievement pos-sible," concluded Dr Bell "They have brought all the people of the United States within sound of one auother's voices, and united them into one great brotherhood."

When the telephone had grown so that it could be taken outdoors on October 9, 1876, Dr. Bell had called "ahoy" across two miles of wire, just as he was calling now across three thousand, and it was not until some-time later that "hello" was used

Mayor Mitchel of New York and Mayor Rolph of San Francisco exchanged greetings.

Statement by Mr. Bethell. In speaking of the new transconti-nental line, U. N. Bethell, senior vicepresident of the American Telephone

president of the American Peterione and Telegraph Company, said:

"The completion of the transcontinental line is not only an epoch-marking event in scientific development, but also the opening door to better conditions, commercial and social, throughout the nation it means the breaking down of old barlers. By facilitating the exchange of information and ideas it brings the most remote points in the country closer toformation and ideas it brings the most remote points in the country closer together than were points lying within a single state a quarter of a century ago. It broadens mutual understanding and appreciation and thus aids tremendously. In the advance of civilization. This is one of the romantic and inspiring steps in the progress of the art as developed by our great and always mutually helpful organization which embraces in its ranks more than 150,000 men and women. To the organization as a whole this event will have significance that cannot be over-sell-mated, it will exert an influence that will not end with day, but go on working for better and greater results through years to come. In some way, directly or indirectly, every efficient man and woman in the organization line contributed semething to the archievement, and therefore as a whole, the organization merits congression. Greating From Boston.

Greeting From Boston. The following conversation took place between Thomas D Lockwood in Boston, and Thomas B. Doclittle in San Francisco:

San Francisco:

MR. LOCKWOOD speaking: "Good evening, Mr. Doclittle, I send you greeting from the birthplace of the telephone. It is worth while to have given the bent part of our lives to the telephone service, to realize that we have resched this notable day and are privileged to take part in it. It recalls the earlier flays when by building the Boston and Lowell line, the Boston and Providence lines, and the first experimental line between Boston and New York, this last supervised by yourself, the first steps in the march of long distance tolephone communication were taken.

"That seems but yesterday, so fresh it is in my memory, and yet here we are celebrating the completion of the system to the Pacific ceast, the crown and culmination, and that has been made possible by the combination and exercise of constant effort in engineering and invention, and constant profit by the teaching of experience."

MR DOOLITTLE, IN SAN FRANCIS-CO. speaking "Glad to hear you, Mr. Lockwood, and to exchange greetings and congratulations. I reciprocate your expressions of suitsfaction in the successful accomplishment of this great work. Speaking of and looking backward over the history of tellsphone progress, we can both say, as did one of ancient times, 'all of which I saw and part of which I was.' But are you not going to invite me to dinner?" MR. LOCKWOOD, replying: "Certain-

MR. LOCKWOOD, replying: "Certainly: I am happy to invite you to dinner but don't forget that times and conditions are changed. When in 1879 we epened the Lowell line, it you were in Lowell, you would have heard my invitation while I was giving it, and could have loined me inside of an hour, but now and where you are, while you will hear with your own ears my invitation threshours before I give it you cannot reach the table until four or five days later."

Colonel Higginson Talks.

Col. Henry Higginson spoke to Mr.

Col. Henry Higginson spoke to Mr. Thomas A. Watson in San Francisco and was followed by Mayor James M Curley and Mr. Elmer J. Bliss, Presi dent of the Boston Chamber of Com-

Mr. P. L. Spaulding, President of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company and George E. Mc-Farland, President of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company ex-

changed greetings
In New York it was 4 o'clock when Doctor Bell sent his "ahoy" across the continent, and one of the first of the guests to speak after him asked the time in San Francisco. Each one looked at his watch as the answer came back: "One o'clock." This started a flurry of figuring. Those who know sound waves and the rate they travel said that it would take four hours for a man's voice, unaided, granted the possibility

DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL,



Inventor of the Telephone, Who Talked to Thomas Watson Over the New Transcontinental Line.

of such titanic lungs, to travel to San Francisco through the air. On the wires it takes less than one-fifteenth of a second. Electricity was driving Dr. Bell's "aboy" at the rate of 56,000 miles per second. Sound, unabetted, limps along in comparison, making only 1,160 feet per second.

Work Takes Two Years.

The work of constructing the trans-

continental line took two years, but the history of the work of making the poles and wires, set and strupg by the

ard transmitter and continued the con- I construction craws who do their du years. It brings you into experstations and testing rooms and laboratories. It covers innumer able experiments and improvements Every step forward in the develo ment of telephony has been over a gigantic scrap heap. Bell's original transmitter has seventy-three de-scendants. Fifty-three types and styles of transmitters have been introduce ince 1877. Within ten years the Hell System spent for construction and reoustruction an amount more than equal to the present book value of the

entire plant And what is true of transmitters an eccivers is even truer of all that lies between the terminals of the transcontinental line, for it is in this field that the engineers had the er and the Const with vas comparatively simple they confronted von York and working all ale necessary for a 3,400 mile table. Tra-mitters, switchboards, metallic circu hard-drawn copper wire a coils all had to be attuned continental keynote. There's a hint the real achievement in what the a neers did with the leading coll. W the loading coll left the hands of inventor it was as large as a keg, the fine iron wires inside it cost a min to make. To-day the loading coil is few inches in size, and in the Ne York-San Francisco line there are 600 miles of that wire whose cost of manufacture is comparatively low. Big Problems Solved.

For those in the Dey Street officer there was striking proof that the prob lem of transmitting speech is solved by any loud-spending tran-mitter in the replica of Bell's inventor that lay before them. They realis as they looked at that instrume crude in the light of all that has a pened to transmitters since, what

speak across the whole United Stat They saw that it was not a question more horse power, that the telepho

Who made the first telephone 40 years ago according to Doctor Sell's specifi-cations. Mr. Watson in San Francisco talked to Doctor Bell in New York

or start more engines running to get what he was after For telephony the engineer must prosectaneously the thousand waves made in the air by the voice with all their separate shapes and in-dividualities preserved. In speaking of his engineers' problems, President

The solution was found only in tha. cumulative effect of improvemen great and small, in telephone, tra-mitter, line, cable, switchboard a every other piece of apparatus, or plant

required in the transmission of

Nine Million Telephones. But proud as telephone engineers are of what they have accomplished. they will tell you that this trans-continental line is by no means the last word in the telephone's derelopment in this country. The next line is the backbone of a network of 21,000,000 miles of wire woven round 9,000,000 telephone stations of the Bell System. The completion of the line is a mighty step forward townthat ideal of universal service presche by Fresident Vall and als associate back in the Seventies. As they inter preted universal service, it meant that anyone anywhere could speak to any one anywhere in this country by the ing his telephone receiver of the hori The line is still in the hands of engineers. There is an amount of flet work to be done before it is opened to the public for commercial use, but when it is opened it will mean that a New York business man can talk his San Francisco associate without

feaving his desk.

The telephone in the United States has always set the pace for the rest of the world. It has "made in the U.S. A. stamped on its very soul.

Here are some figures in connection with the New York-San Francisco line for the lovers of statistics:

Length of line, 3,400 miles. Route From San Francisco to Salt Lake City 770 miles; from Salt Lake City Denver, 580 miles; from Denver Omaha, 585 miles; from Omaha to Ch cago, 500 miles. At Chicago the I branches, one branch going to Pic burgh, 545 miles, and then to New York, 390 miles from Pittsburgh, The other branch goes from Chicago to Buffalo, 603 miles, and then down to New York, 350 miles. There is a continuation of the line from Buffalo Boston, 465 miles long. From Pitts burgh there is a continuation extend-ing to Baltimore, 250 miles away on to Washington, 265 miles. Philadelphia is reached by a branch from the line extending from Pittsburgh to New

York, connecting at Newtown Square.

The diameter of the hard-drawn copper wire of number 8 B. W. G. gauge used in the line is .165 inch. The total weight of one circuit consisting of two such wires is 1,480 tons.

There are 130,000 poles in the line.